

# **John Kennedy Gowdy papers**

## **S531**

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January 29, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts  
140 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204  
317-232-3671

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Rare Books and Manuscripts
<b>Title</b>	John Kennedy Gowdy papers
<b>Date</b>	circa 1920s
<b>Extent</b>	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Text [Folder]</b>	S531

### Preferred Citation

John Kennedy Gowdy papers, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

## Biographical Note

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John Kennedy Gowdy was born in Arlington (Rush County), Indiana on August 22, 1843 to Adam McConnell and Nancy Oliver Gowdy. In 1849 his family moved to Jasper County. He enlisted in Company L, 5th Indiana Volunteer Calvary at Lafayette, Indiana, July 17, 1862. His regiment pursued and captured John Morgan and with General Sherman until after the evacuation of Atlanta, Georgia. He was mustered out at Pulaski, Tennessee October 5, 1865. He returned to Rush County, Indiana and farmed. On January 24, 1867, he married Eve Eliza Gordon (in Rush County), with whom he had two children.

He was elected sheriff of Rush County in 1870 and 1872, as the youngest sheriff in that county. He was elected auditor of the county in 1882 and was re-elected in 1886. He was chairman of the Rush County Republican Committee from 1879 to 1889. He was chosen Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee in 1890 and elected to that post in 1892, after it was reorganized and again in 1894 and 1896. He was appointed by President McKinley in 1897 as Consul-General to Paris, in which position he won many awards and honors. On July 3, 1900, he presented a statue of George Washington, a gift of the American people to the French government. He assisted in locating the body of John Paul Jones, which was returned to the United States. He resigned that position effective September 30, 1905 and returned to Rush County.

He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, beginning in 1866. His personal characteristics led to many honors and awards and the admiration of many people. He died June 25, 1915 and is buried in the Arlington East Hill Cemetery, Arlington, Indiana.

Information found within the collection.

"Gowdy, John Kennedy". (1921) In Centennial History of Rush County, Indiana. Indianapolis, IN: Historical Publishing Company. Print. ISLI 977.201 R9529

"Gowdy, John K.". Indiana, Marriage Collection, 1800-1941. Retrieved 2015/01/14, <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Gowdy, John Kennedy". U.S., Find a Grave Index, 1600s - Current. Retrieved 2015/01/14, <http://findagrave.com>

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection includes a carbon copy of a typewritten document excerpted, with some additions, from the "Centennial History of Rush County, Indiana" in 1921 regarding the life of John Kennedy Gowdy.

## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged chronologically.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

### Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation.

### Accruals

No further additions are expected.

### Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2015/01/14 by Edythe Huffman. EAD finding aid created 2015/01/14 by Edythe Huffman.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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**Geographic Name(s)**

- Rush County (Ind.)

**Personal Name(s)**

- Gowdy, John Kennedy

**Subject(s)**

- Centennial celebrations, etc
- Documents